

## THE DAILY STAR

### BEARS AFLOAT.

To-day the Florida peninsula, south of the ancient city of Augustine, is nearly as much of an unknown land as when the old Spanish galleons, De Soto and De Leon, were ransacking its almost impenetrable jungle in search of gold and the fountain of perpetual youth. The east coast, in fact, is not nearly as much frequented by man as it was in the old Spanish days.

The exuberance of nature in that semi-tropical climate is still running wild, and probably will continue to do so for ages to come; for, as a discouraged settler once said to the writer, "God hasn't finished this country yet, and it's no use standing 'round in His way."

Soon after the close of the late war it was the fortune of H— to become connected with a certain company of lumbermen, who at that time located near Mosquito Inlet, about one hundred miles south of St. Augustine.

H— was serving the company in a sort of general capacity, including store-keeping, time-keeping, hunting and fishing and bartering with the neighbors for such camp supplies as their limited amount of energy could afford.

It was on the occasion of a proposed excursion to old man Futch's place to procure a boat-load of sweet pumpkins (we should call them squashes), that the incidents of our bear story took place.

Old man Futch, as he was familiarly called, was one of the nearest neighbors, and with his wife lived in a palmetto-thatched log cabin of one room, near the north end, or head, of Mosquito Inlet, something more than sixty miles from the camp.

A minute description of the gentleman bearing the euphonious name of "Futch," together with his surroundings, his house, and appurtenances, and his manner of living, would astonish most New England boys.

Mosquito Inlet, after breaking through the ridge of low, white sand hillocks that line the coast, extends its waters both north and south in narrow lagoons parallel with, and at no point more than three miles from the sea-shore, thus forming narrow peninsulas varying in width from one to two miles.

The north peninsula sustains little except a rank growth of shrubbery over its whole extent, consisting principally of the low palmetto, which produces an abundance of rich oily berries, of which bears are exceedingly fond.

Between sunset and dark, on a single evening, H— has counted eight full-grown bears, that would average to weigh near 400, swimming the lagoon from their homes in the dark primeval forest of the main land, in quest of a supper and a moonlight promenade on the peninsula.

At midnight when the bright moon was hanging low over the dark Atlantic, away out where the skies and water seemed to meet, her gleaming beams playing hide and seek with the white crested waves chasing far up the beach and beach, H— has watched, from a little booth-house in the sand hills, an old dam and her two cubs cantering along the water's edge, occasionally stopping as the incoming waves broke round her huge feet, with perhaps an offering of some unlucky crab or other dainty mouthful from ocean's store-house—the little ones, meantime, scampering out of the way, only to follow up the receding waters with their gambols, till the next white-capped roller folded itself over with a crash and boom that set them scrambling off again.

One fine morning an early start was made from camp by order of Major Hoyt, who was General Superintendent, with a good-natured supplementary command not to come back without bringing something to eat.

The party consisted of a Western half-breed Indian called John, Guss Hoyt, a fourteen-year-old son of the Major's, and H—.

The outfit was made up of a common ship's yawl, an old Springfield rifle, a Ballard rifle and Colt's revolver.

The wind was fair and steady. The tide served at four o'clock, and ten minutes after the little craft was afloat with her sail filled, and lifted along at a rate which soon put "Camp Grange," at a distance.

On past low-lying marshes, covered with coarse grass, and dotted here and there with occasional scraggy mangrove, or the tall, limbless trunk of a palmetto palm. On through narrow passages, between oyster reefs and shoals, where the tide eddies and whirls like a mill-race, the little craft scud in the gray morning.

Rather a dubious scene, on the whole, till the sun's rays leaped over the sand-hills and lit up the old black forest of pine, live oak, and magnolia, that grew to the water's edge on the mainland.

H— was at the helm, intent upon avoiding reefs, shoals and sandbars. Guss managed the sheet-ropes with a turn round a belaying pin, as directed by the steersman, while John sat with the Ballard rifle across his lap, quietly "watching out."

Never a word had been spoken since the journey began. It was not a very social party that morning. In fact, there was no time for long yams or gossip, for the fifteen miles run, made in about an hour in the uncertain light of dawn, was through a dangerous locality for navigating with such speed.

As the sun came up, the boat emerged into a broad bay whose glistening waters, fringed on the one side by the dark moss-covered wall of live oak hammock, and on the other by bright evergreen slopes of low palmetto, seemed an enchanted lake.

They had made nearly half the distance across the pen of a bay, when John suddenly springing to his feet exclaimed, pointing to the leeward: "There's three bears, Cap. Let off that sheet, Guss! There! there! hold her there."

The boat had approached the game on the harbor bow, the sail hiding it until the two were abreast, but there, sure

enough, not more than twenty yards to leeward were an old dam, and two yearling cubs, pointing for the main land and swimming for dear life.

No sooner said than done. The helm was put hard leeward, the sheet gradually let off, and the little craft cut as pretty a quarter circle as ever craft was seen to cut.

Now the game was dead ahead and the wind dead aft. It was rather pitiful to see the old mother who was straining every nerve, with no chance of escape, continually turning her head to look over one shoulder, then the other, with desperate wild eyes as she was being rapidly overhauled.

In less time than is required to relate the maneuver, they were alongside and within six feet, when John raised his rifle and gave her a shot, but owing probably to the motion of both boat and bear, it did not prove "a quietus," by any means, but so crazed her that she began swimming round in a circle.

The boat was immediately put about and hauled up close to the wind for a tack, when dame bruin was observed to be making directly for it, apparently herself again, but mad with pain.

The crew were disposed to accommodate her, and so let the sail flop to avoid headway. John now fired his other shot, which must have missed altogether, for she kept her course, straight for the boat.

H—, thinking his companion a trifle excited, seized the revolver, and, taking a position amidship, while yet the bear was some six or eight feet distant, coolly aimed and fired, in quick succession, the whole six chambers into her head.

Strange to say, she took no more notice of them than if they had been so many paper pads fired from a sweet-elder popgun.

She had now reached the side of the boat and giving a tremendous spring, threw one of her huge paws over the gunwale, then the other, with massive claws protruding, it seemed, two inches from her toes, and drew herself up, head and shoulders, with fierce blood-shot eyes fixed on H—, her wicked open mouth sending forth such an unearthly, blood-curdling growl from between two such rows of teeth, as would shake the nerves of most men.

The scared expression had all gone from her eyes now, and was replaced by a look of glaring hate and revenge. (You would wonder that a bear could so change its expression of countenance.)

It was evident enough that she intended to take passage on board that craft, for her great black body was coming up out of the water.

"H—, while looking down her throat and almost feeling her hot breath upon his cheek, thought of the old Springfield at his feet hitherto forgotten. Dropping his now useless revolver behind him, he seized and cocked the rifle just as the bear was coming over the gunwale, and thrusting the muzzle into her open mouth pulled the trigger.

That shot did the business. Letting go with all four, she tumbled into the boat, limp and dead, with scarce a quiver.

"Now for the cubs," said John. They were but a short distance away, making all possible headway for dry land and tall timber, but were soon overhauled. A single shot, from John's rifle, now reloaded, dispatched one, when the boy Guss cried out: "Oh, Cap! let's capture the other alive."

Accordingly, the sail was taken in so as not to run away from him, or require any bother of managing, and by means of a paddle held toward him, which he would seize hold of and hug and bite, he was kept alongside.

It would seem an easy matter, under the circumstances, to noose the creature with the boat's anchor rope, but it required an hour's hard labor to get the noose to stick.

He was the size of a spaniel dog, "as fat as a cub," the most slippery fellow you ever saw, and would work his head and feet out of the smallest hole.

Three times he was hauled on board, but as may times slipped his cable, going overboard with a souse, always coming to the surface ready to bug and bite the paddle.

Finally, getting tuckered, his motions were less agile. A lucky noose over the neck and behind one shoulder, then another turn round the neck and behind the other shoulder, quickly drawn up, and he was secured in the forward end.

The little craft, now having on board something to eat, the party concluded they would be carrying out the Major's instructions, even though they returned without the pumpkins, which they did in high glee, for they were all mere boys.

The old bear balanced the scales at 430, which, with the dead cub, afforded meat for the camp several days. H— found on examination, the balls from his revolver had only buried themselves under the skin, and were fastened like a wafer against the animal's thick skull.

John's first shot had simply passed through the bridge of the nose with only a maddening effect.

The minie ball from the old Springfield had passed up through the roof of the mouth, lodging in the brain.

Mme. Thiers has recently completed the arrangement of her husband's study, which remains much as it was during his lifetime. It is rich in works of art, though it was no show place, for M. Thiers was in it, ready for work by 5 o'clock every morning, summer and winter alike. One of his peculiarities was that he would not have an almanac in his study and was often unable to date a letter because he could not remember the day of the month. Upon one occasion a Government clerk to whom he had promised a letter of recommendation came by appointment for it, and M. Thiers, sitting down to write it, asked him the day of the month. The young man could not remember it for the moment, and M. Thiers exclaimed: "You are not likely to make a very good administrator if you can not remember the day of the month. How can I recommend you?" He wrote the letter, however, saying, when he had finished it, "Always carry a pocket almanac, my young friend."

#### PERSONALS ABOUT LADIES.

Jennie Lind's hair is white as snow.

Mary Anderson has written a new play.

Mrs. Senator Windom is described as a clever woman—one so wise and accomplished that she is herself the sole instructor of her children.

Thyra Louise Caroline Amalia Augusta Elizabeth is the pretty little name which has just been bestowed upon the infant daughter of the Crown Prince of Denmark.

Mrs. Hayes will witness, May 27th, the laying of the corner-stone of the new Wesleyan Dormitory, Middletown, Conn. President Porter, of Yale, is to give the address.

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe is going to give an address on "Changes in American Society," before the American Social Science Association at its meeting in Saratoga next September.

Mrs. Samuel J. Randall is said to be always addressed as "mother" by her husband. She is a quiet, gentle lady, with unambitious domestic tastes, and a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Eleanor Sherman-Thackara is a wise young lady. She declared that her trousseau and her wedding gifts were her own private property, and she wouldn't allow them to be paraded in the newspapers.

Mrs. Langtry appeared as Effie Deans in a London tableau entertainment the other evening. She is described as looking very lovely in her simple blue serge petticoat and jacket of flowered print, her face downcast, her fair hair flowing.

Mrs. Ellen Grant Sartoris is said to be looking extremely pretty. With her two charming children the fair and girlish mother makes a graceful picture. Her youngest child is a little girl named "Vivian," which picturesque little name would hardly seem to belong to the same family as "Ulysses Simpson."

Queen Victoria and Princess Beatrice narrowly escaped an accident when out driving the other day, one of their horses indulging in a dangerously vicious temper. The royal pair had to take to walking, and another horse was provided. On the day before the Duke of Connaught was thrown out of his dog-cart and seriously bruised.

Mlle. Marie Van Zandt, the new American prima donna, has received a high compliment from M. Ambroise Thomas. "She does not play Mignon," says the composer; "she is Mignon." Madame Christine Nilsson says that the young girl in her voice and her ways so reminds her of herself in her youth that she calls Mlle. Marie "Le Petite Nilsson."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage, and a manner earnest and practical. Already her sons are in business and popular in society, and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of the family.

Mlle. Sarah Bernhardt is quoted as saying: "I touch upon everything; yes, I know it. I have been reproached with it often enough. I am an artist, and nothing that concerns art can be indifferent to me. I adore the theater, although I consider that the actor's art is less complete than the other arts that I practice, and I do all that I can to succeed on the stage. I adore painting and sculpture—two creative arts those—and I carve and paint. I have been modeling now for a good many years. As for the palette, I am almost a beginner, but I am sure that I shall arrive at a result. I have got that into my head. As for music, that is one of the compartments that is wanting in my brain; I know nothing about it. I am sorry that such is the case."

"Mrs. Blaine," the Washington correspondent of the Syracuse Journal says, "is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

Mrs. Blaine is fair-haired, tall, rather stout, with dignified carriage and a manner earnest and practical. Sincerely conscientious, Mrs. Blaine seems to belong to a race of New England women 'not always to be met with even among the rugged hills, and rarely seen elsewhere. A beautiful home-life is the result of her wise management. Already her sons are in business, and popular in society; and Miss Alice, the eldest daughter, a beautiful girl of eighteen, stands beside the mother like a younger sister. Though Miss Mary is home from school, she is understood to be not as yet in society. Miss Dodge, better known as Gail Hamilton, is, for half of the year, a member of this lovely family. The moving throngs of visitors at the Executive Mansion would be amply and generously entertained in the coming contest should seat Senator Blaine in the chair of State. Mrs. Blaine ever sympathizes most deeply with her brilliant husband, in his political exploits and ambitions, yet would gladly persuade him to retire to private life."

will be identified. The accepted article is signed by the society, and if it is considered to be specially meritorious, the society's seal is attached to it. When the contributor does not mark it with the price, she is required to give an estimate of the cost of materials, and when it is sold the full amount is paid to her, less ten per cent, the society's commission. Rejected articles are returned to the sender, with criticisms of the committee. Among the articles considered appropriate for admission, if of sufficient merit, are pottery, china, tiles, plaques, embroideries, window, book-case, cabinet and other hangings or curtains, mantle and bracket lampreigns, decorated table and other house linen, panels for cabinet-work painted on wood or leather, paintings on silk for screens, panels, and fans, decorated menus, and decorated note-paper.

The contributions come from all parts of the country, and over 5,700 articles were received last year. The largest amount paid to any contributor was \$675 for paintings on china; and from this the reader may well conclude that under the most favorable circumstances the decorative arts do not lead on to fortune. Occasionally a woman is heard of who receives fifty dollars apiece for her plaques, and the fact is spread far and wide, creating an impression in every nervous woman's mind that she may be able to do likewise. But it is only when considerable ability is combined with business "push" that one is so successful, for the printer is usually compelled to solicit her own orders.

The number of instructors who advertise themselves, and the hundreds of women who are taking lessons in china-painting, silk-painting, the coloring of photographs, and crayon-drawing in all cities, ought to deter others from venturing upon an occupation already so well filled.

The farmer's wife and daughter in Kansas and Nebraska, the impoverished woman of the South, the widows of army and navy officers, and girls in New England homesteads are all submitting contributions to the Decorative Art Society. Those who are poor and work for bread are brought into competition with other women who pursue art as a recreation. Nearly every lady now devotes some part of her leisure to panel painting, and however generous she may be, it has all the pleasure of novelty when she can sell what she produces, be the amount ever so trifling or immaterial to her.

#### A PANTHER-SLAYER.

Four Ferocious Animals Killed One After the Other.

(Butler Creek (Oregon) Enterprise.)

A few days ago Mr. Haugh, who lives near Scott's Mills, started for Beaver Lake to get some cedar timber. He had along a large-bored rifle, a little rattier, and a rather large dog of part Newfoundland breed. After leaving the main road and getting on an almost blind road he saw a panther cross the road ahead of him. He stopped the team, tied them to a small tree, and followed the dogs, who had succeeded in treecing the panther in a very short time. It was on a large oak tree, about thirty feet from the ground, and growling savagely.

Mr. Haugh fell back a short distance, in order to get a rest shot, fired, and his game fell dead to the ground, having made a final leap which brought him about fifteen or twenty feet from the tree. On going back to the wagon the children pointed out another panther back on the road over which they had passed. On approaching it to get a shot it darted into the brush, followed by the two dogs, who succeeded in treecing it without any difficulty. On following the dogs, Mr. Haugh found it on the large limb of a fir tree, about twenty-five or thirty feet from the ground. Getting a rest from the side of a tree some distance away, he shot this one.

At the crack of the gun the panther jumped from the tree, and was followed by the dogs. On following them, it was found dead, about ten yards from where it was shot. On approaching the ranch where Mr. S. Huelet, once embarked in the cattle business, he found that the little dog had succeeded in treecing a panther about two-thirds grown. This one was shot dead. Before Mr. Haugh had time to load he heard the big dog barking at something about two hundred yards off down the hillside. On going to where it was, he saw the biggest panther he ever saw—a very large female. She was growling and snapping her teeth at the dogs so much that she formed the most savage picture he had ever seen. It was difficult to get a good shot, but on firing she came down, and the limb on which she was with her. As she ran off the dogs followed her, and on coming up with them he saw her on a stump about twenty-five feet from the ground.

Mr. Haugh shot again, but as no vital part was struck, it only succeeded in making her growl and lash her tail fiercer than ever. On looking for a bullet Mr. Haugh found that he only had half a bullet left, with which he had to make a successful shot or lose his game. His patching was all gone as well, so tearing off part of the lining of his coat he put it round the bullet and rammed it home. Taking careful aim, he fired. This time he saw the huge beast tumble to the ground, to be seized by the dogs. She seized the big dog by the snout with one paw, and had succeeded in tearing the snout nearly off when death put an end to her struggles. The last one, on being measured, was over nine feet long from tip to tip. All the panthers were full grown except one, which was only about two-thirds grown. They were all killed within two hours.

Mr. Haugh shot again, but as no vital part was struck, it only succeeded in making her growl and lash her tail fiercer than ever. On looking for a bullet Mr. Haugh found that he only had half a bullet left, with which he had to make a successful shot or lose his game. His patching was all gone as well, so tearing off part of the lining of his coat he put it round the bullet and rammed it home. Taking careful aim, he fired. This time he saw the huge beast tumble to the ground, to be seized by the dogs. She seized the big dog by the snout with one paw, and had succeeded in tearing the snout nearly off when death put an end to her struggles. The last one, on being measured, was over nine feet long from tip to tip. All the panthers were full grown except one, which was only about two-thirds grown. They were all killed within two hours.

Mr. Haugh shot again, but as no vital part was struck, it only succeeded in making her growl and lash her tail fiercer than ever. On looking for a bullet Mr. Haugh found that he only had half a bullet left, with which he had to make a successful shot or lose his game. His patching was all gone as well, so tearing off part of the lining of his coat he put it round the bullet and rammed it home. Taking careful aim, he fired. This time he saw the huge beast tumble to the ground, to be seized by the dogs. She seized the big dog by the snout with one paw, and had succeeded in tearing the snout nearly off when death put an end to her struggles. The last one, on being measured, was over nine feet long from tip to tip. All the panthers were full grown except one, which was only about two-thirds grown. They were all killed within two hours.

Mr. Haugh shot again, but as no vital part was struck, it only succeeded in making her growl and lash her tail fiercer than ever. On looking for a bullet Mr. Haugh found that he only had half a bullet left, with which he had to make a successful shot or lose his game. His patching was all gone as well, so tearing off part of the lining of his coat he put it round the bullet and rammed it home. Taking careful aim, he fired. This time he saw the huge beast tumble to the ground, to be seized by the dogs. She seized the big dog by the snout with one paw, and had succeeded in tearing the snout nearly off when death put an end to her struggles. The last one, on being measured, was over nine feet long from tip to tip. All the panthers were full grown except one, which was only about two-thirds grown. They were all killed within two hours.

Mr. Haugh shot again, but as no vital part was struck, it only succeeded in making her growl and lash her tail fiercer than ever. On looking for a bullet Mr. Haugh found that he only had half a bullet left, with which he had to make a successful shot or lose his game. His patching was all gone as well, so tearing off part of the lining of his coat he put it round the bullet and rammed it home. Taking careful aim, he fired. This time he saw the huge beast tumble to the ground, to be seized by the dogs. She seized the big dog by the snout with one paw, and had succeeded in tearing the snout nearly off when death put an end to her struggles. The last one, on being measured, was over nine feet long from tip to tip. All the panthers were full grown except one, which was only about two-thirds grown. They were all killed within two hours.

Mr. Haugh shot again, but as no vital part was struck, it only succeeded in making her growl and lash her tail fiercer than ever. On looking for a bullet Mr. Haugh found that he only had half a bullet left, with which he had to make a successful shot or lose his game. His patching was all gone as well, so tearing off part of the lining of his coat he put it round the bullet and rammed it home. Taking careful aim, he fired. This time he saw the huge beast tumble to the ground, to be seized by the dogs. She seized the big dog by the snout with one paw, and had succeeded in tearing the snout nearly off when death put an end to her struggles. The last one, on being measured, was over nine feet long from tip to tip. All the panthers were full grown except one, which was only about two-thirds grown. They were all killed within two hours.

Mr. Haugh shot again, but as no vital part was struck, it only succeeded in making her growl and lash her tail fiercer than ever. On looking for a bullet Mr. Haugh found that he only had half a bullet left, with which he had to make a successful shot or lose his game. His patching was all gone as well, so tearing off part of the lining of his coat he put it round the bullet and rammed it home. Taking careful aim, he fired. This time he saw the huge beast tumble to the ground, to be seized by the dogs. She seized the big dog by the snout with one paw, and had succeeded in tearing the snout nearly off when death put an end to her struggles. The last one, on being measured, was over nine feet long from tip to tip. All the panthers were full grown except one, which was only about two-thirds grown. They were all killed within two hours.